



Annual Scrutiny Report

April 2023-March 2024

safer  brentwood

Introduction

Brentwood Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is the local statutory CSP. The purpose of the CSP is to provide a strategic and collaborative approach to addressing local crime and disorder within the Brentwood by reducing the levels of crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour, the misuse of drugs and reducing re-offending. Additionally, the CSP is committed to delivering beyond our statutory obligations and understands the importance of wider community safety issues to our local communities such as Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) schemes, Speedwatch activity and continuing to develop home safety activity with our partners such as Essex Police and Essex County Fire & Rescue Service (ECFRS).

The partnership is made up of both Statutory and Community organisations as detailed below.



The CSP is currently chaired by Essex Police Inspector, Jonathon Maine and Corporate Manager - Community Safety, Jonathon Woodhams is Vice Chair. Each year the CSP are required to prepare a Strategic Intelligence Assessment to review existing priorities and identify any new or emerging priorities that the partnership should focus on.

Following this analysis and identification of the strategic priorities a Partnership Plan is produced detailing the partnerships activities for the forthcoming year to address the issues raised in the Strategic Intelligence Assessment.

The Partnership Plan is a public facing document which details the priorities identified by residents and data from the Strategic Intelligence Assessment. The document includes detailed action plans for each priority area and sets out how the partnership will work together over the next twelve months to tackle crime and disorder and achieve its priorities.

This plan also has regard to the police and crime objectives set out in the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners (PFCC) Police and Crime Plan.

The priorities identified from the 2023/2024 Strategic Intelligence Assessment were:



Priority Breakdown



Policing Structure and Resources

Brentwood Borough forms part of Essex Police West Local Policing Area (LPA), which also includes the districts of Epping Forest, Harlow, and Thurrock. The Borough accounts for 22% of the area and 17% of the population of the LPA.

Community Policing Team (CPT) delivers community policing within the borough and comprises of:

- 1 Inspector, covering Epping Forest and Brentwood
- 1 Sergeant covering Brentwood CPT
- 1 Sergeant covering Epping Forest and Brentwood Town Centre Team
- 8 Constables, covering Brentwood (Including 3 Town Centre Team)
- 2 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) for Brentwood

- 1 Rural Community Officer who is shared with Epping Forest
- 1 Children and Young Persons Officer
- 1 Community Safety & Engagement Officer

Crime Figures - Below are the crime statistics for Brentwood. Overall Brentwood sits on the lower end of the crime statistics across Essex.

Brentwood Crime Tree Data - Rolling 12 Months to January

Top Level		Offences					Solved Outcomes					Solved Rates %		
Crime Type	% DA 2024	2023	2024	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2024	2023	2024	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2024	2023	2024	% pt. diff.
Anti-Social Behaviour (incidents)	-	747	480	-267	-35.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Crime (excl. Action (NFIB) Fraud)	13.2	5789	5678	-111	-1.9	100.0	624	607	-17	-2.7	100.0	10.8	10.7	-0.1
- State Based Crime	3.5	895	779	-116	-13.0	13.7	253	229	-24	-9.5	37.7	28.3	29.4	1.1
- Victim Based Crime	14.8	4894	4899	5	0.1	86.3	371	378	7	1.9	62.3	7.6	7.7	0.1
Victim Based Crime														
Crime Type	% DA 2024	2023	2024	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2024	2023	2024	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2024	2023	2024	% pt. diff.
Violence Against the Person	35.3	1942	1706	-236	-12.2	30.0	189	191	2	1.1	31.5	9.7	11.2	1.5
- Homicide	-	1	0	-1	-100.0	0.0	1	0	-1	-100.0	0.0	100.0	-	-
- Violence with Injury	36.2	442	392	-50	-11.3	6.9	64	79	15	23.4	13.0	14.5	20.2	5.7
- Death or Serious Injury caused by unlawful driv	0.0	1	1	0	0.0	0.0	1	1	0	0.0	0.2	100.0	100.0	0.0
- Violence without Injury	33.2	772	738	-34	-4.4	13.0	82	64	-18	-22.0	10.5	10.6	8.7	-1.9
- Stalking and Harassment	37.6	726	575	-151	-20.8	10.1	41	47	6	14.6	7.7	5.6	8.2	2.5
Sexual Offences	25.6	203	164	-39	-19.2	2.9	23	10	-13	-56.5	1.6	11.3	6.1	-5.2
- Rape	50.8	69	63	-6	-8.7	1.1	1	0	-1	-100.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	-1.4
- Rape - Under 16 yrs	5.3	11	19	8	72.7	0.3	1	0	-1	-100.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	-9.1
- Rape - Over 16 yrs	70.5	58	44	-14	-24.1	0.8	0	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- Other Sexual Offences	9.9	134	101	-33	-24.6	1.8	22	10	-12	-54.5	1.6	16.4	9.9	-6.5
- Other sexual offences : Under 13	0.0	15	21	6	40.0	0.4	0	2	2	-	0.3	0.0	9.5	9.5
- Other sexual offences : Under 16	0.0	46	27	-19	-41.3	0.5	19	3	-16	-84.2	0.5	41.3	11.1	-30.2
- Other sexual offences : Age 13 to 17	-	1	0	-1	-100.0	0.0	0	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	-	-
- Other sexual offences : Over 13	17.4	52	46	-6	-11.5	0.8	2	3	1	50.0	0.5	3.8	6.5	2.7
- Other sexual offences : Over 16	100.0	0	2	2	-	0.0	0	0	0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-
- Other sexual offences : Not Age Specific	0.0	20	5	-15	-75.0	0.1	1	2	1	100.0	0.3	5.0	40.0	35.0
Robbery	9.1	30	44	14	46.7	0.8	3	4	1	33.3	0.7	10.0	9.1	-0.9
- Robbery of business property	0.0	3	4	1	33.3	0.1	1	1	0	0.0	0.2	33.3	25.0	-8.3
- Robbery of Personal Property	10.0	27	40	13	48.1	0.7	2	3	1	50.0	0.5	7.4	7.5	0.1
Theft Offences	1.1	2280	2525	245	10.7	44.5	117	137	20	17.1	22.6	5.1	5.4	0.3
- Burglary	1.7	343	353	10	2.9	6.2	17	14	-3	-17.6	2.3	5.0	4.0	-1.0
- Burglary Business & Community	0.0	115	96	-19	-16.5	1.7	6	3	-3	-50.0	0.5	5.2	3.1	-2.1
- Burglary Residential	2.3	228	257	29	12.7	4.5	11	11	0	0.0	1.8	4.8	4.3	-0.5
- Burglary Residential - Dwelling	3.2	145	186	41	28.3	3.3	11	10	-1	-9.1	1.6	7.6	5.4	-2.2
- Burglary Residential - Non Dwelling	0.0	83	71	-12	-14.5	1.3	0	1	1	-	0.2	0.0	1.4	1.4
- Vehicle Offences (incl. Interference)	0.2	877	1077	200	22.8	19.0	26	12	-14	-53.8	2.0	3.0	1.1	-1.9
- Theft from a Vehicle	0.2	394	490	96	24.4	8.6	4	3	-1	-25.0	0.5	1.0	0.6	-0.4
- Theft of a Vehicle	0.2	341	423	82	24.0	7.4	13	6	-7	-53.8	1.0	3.8	1.4	-2.4
- Vehicle Interference	0.0	142	164	22	15.5	2.9	9	3	-6	-66.7	0.5	6.3	1.8	-4.5
- Theft	1.9	1060	1095	35	3.3	19.3	74	111	37	50.0	18.3	7.0	10.1	3.2
- Theft from the Person	0.0	60	34	-26	-43.3	0.6	1	2	1	100.0	0.3	1.7	5.9	4.2
- Theft of Pedal Cycle	0.0	24	31	7	29.2	0.5	1	0	-1	-100.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	-4.2
- Shoplifting	0.0	389	488	99	25.4	8.6	57	92	35	61.4	15.2	14.7	18.9	4.2
- Other Theft	3.9	587	542	-45	-7.7	9.5	15	17	2	13.3	2.8	2.6	3.1	0.6
Criminal Damage inc. Arson	10.2	439	460	21	4.8	8.1	39	36	-3	-7.7	5.9	8.9	7.8	-1.1
- Criminal Damage	10.9	418	433	15	3.6	7.6	39	33	-6	-15.4	5.4	9.3	7.6	-1.7
- Arson	0.0	21	27	6	28.6	0.5	0	3	3	-	0.5	0.0	11.1	11.1
Victim Based: Under Reported														
Crime Type	% DA 2024	2023	2024	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2024	2023	2024	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2024	2023	2024	% pt. diff.
Racial/Religiously Aggravated Offences	1.7	87	58	-29	-33.3	1.0	20	11	-9	-45.0	1.8	23.0	19.0	-4.0
Hate Crime HO Definition	0.9	160	113	-47	-29.4	2.0	29	15	-14	-48.3	2.5	18.1	13.3	-4.9
Domestic Abuse	100.0	840	752	-88	-10.5	13.2	84	99	15	17.9	16.3	10.0	13.2	3.2
- High Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	116	62	-54	-46.6	1.1	21	28	7	33.3	4.6	18.1	45.2	27.1
- Medium Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	96	126	30	31.3	2.2	21	21	0	0.0	3.5	21.9	16.7	-5.2
- Standard Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	598	539	-59	-9.9	9.5	39	47	8	20.5	7.7	6.5	8.7	2.2
- No Risk Assessment	100.0	30	25	-5	-16.7	0.4	3	3	0	0.0	0.5	10.0	12.0	2.0

State Based Crime		Offences					Solved Outcomes					Solved Rates %		
Crime Type	% DA 2024	2023	2024	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2024	2023	2024	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2024	2023	2024	% pt. diff.
Drug Offences	0.0	186	213	27	14.5	3.8	157	158	1	0.6	26.0	84.4	74.2	-10.2
- Trafficking of Drugs	0.0	45	55	10	22.2	1.0	27	10	-17	-63.0	1.6	60.0	18.2	-41.8
- Possession of Drugs	0.0	141	158	17	12.1	2.8	130	148	18	13.8	24.4	92.2	93.7	1.5
Possession of Weapons	4.5	38	44	6	15.8	0.8	21	19	-2	-9.5	3.1	55.3	43.2	-12.1
Public Order	4.2	566	430	-136	-24.0	7.6	58	35	-23	-39.7	5.8	10.2	8.1	-2.1
Miscellaneous Crimes against Society	7.6	105	92	-13	-12.4	1.6	17	17	0	0.0	2.8	16.2	18.5	2.3

Summary of Crime Figures

- *Anti-Social Behaviour has decreased by 35.9%*
- *Burglary has increased by 6.1%. This increase is in line with other areas and the Community Safety Team, Essex Police and Neighbourhood Watch will continue to engage with the public and promote home safety as and when safe to do so.*
- *Hate Crime offences have decreased by 32.6%.*
- *Public Order and sexual offences have all decreased.*
- *Drug Offences have increased by 2.9%, breakdown of this shows that possession of drugs has decreased by 1.3% whereas trafficking of drugs has increased by 17.4%.*

Partnership Activity and Achievements

Community Engagement - The partnership has continued to deliver as many communities engagement events across the borough and wider Essex where possible. During 2023/24, 33 engagement events have been delivered. These events focus on providing crime prevention and safety advice for the local community. Another area of focus for the partnership is linking in with local, regional, and national campaigns and police operations including:

- Ending Violence Against Women
- Operation Heater – Night time Economy Safety
- Walk with Us – Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Operation Septor – Knife Crime Awareness



A few highlights of our Engagement events across the Borough

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) - Brentwood is extremely privileged to have such a dedicated volunteer, Peter Salmon who co-ordinates NHW across the Borough. He is extremely proactive driving the scheme locally and further afield.

The NHW co-ordinator attends the CSP Strategy Panel meetings and represents Brentwood at County-wide meetings. It is recognised by the partnership that without the support of our local volunteer co-ordinator we would not be able to deliver such a comprehensive engagement programme.

As well as promoting NHW across the borough he has also distributed information leaflets/booklet and crime prevention items such as:

- Window Alarms
- ID Magnifier
- Personal Alarms
- Purse Bells
- Purse Cables
- Property Marker Pens
- Timer Switches
- Sat Nav Cloths
- Key Ring Torches
- Door Chains
- Leaflets including: Lock Em Out, scam booklet, community safety booklet, junior highway code booklet, and much more

The NHW volunteer co-ordinator also produces a monthly 'be wary' information leaflet with key current community safety topics that is displayed in many key locations across the borough and is also shared with Parish Councils and wider partners.

CCTV Control Room in Brentwood is monitored 24 hours a day and 365 days a year, has undergone some improvements, to its control room and the areas it monitors. New cameras and technology enable the operators to keep residents and visitors as safe as possible in high footfall areas across Brentwood.

The Baker Partnership HUB now has two new organisations working from its dynamic workspace. Probation Services and Phoenix Futures now work from the HUB location at the Town Hall one day a week seeing its clients across the Borough. They join the likes of Community Safety, Essex Police (CPT), South Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP) and others.

Local Independent Advisory Group (LIAG) - The CSP continues to support the LIAG with Essex Police and Epping Forest District Council. The aim of the group is to review police working practices and to assist Essex Police better understand how its processes and policies can affect our local communities. It also provides a platform for communities to voice their concerns on key issues.

Social Media is vital in enabling us to communicate effectively with communities. The CSP has a very active social media programme including the use of X (formerly Twitter) with over 700 followers.

X (formerly Twitter): @saferbrentwood

Anti-Social Behaviour - Since April 2023 the following has been achieved:

- Received 122 reports of ASB
- Closed 32 cases
- Served 14 community protection warnings
- Served 6 community protection notices
- Gained 1 injunction
- Served 2 notices of seeking possession

Community Safety Projects

The CSP has remained committed to tackling such a key issue for local communities. These projects are aimed at a vast cross section from children and young people to the vulnerable and elderly.

Projects delivered since April 2023 are:

- **Outreach Work** by Essex County Council Youth Service, targeting hotspot areas and engaging with children and young people.
- **STOP Parenting Course** for parents whose children are at risk of exclusion.
- **Street Pastors** supporting our nighttime economy in Brentwood High Street.
- **Crime Awareness Sessions** delivered in schools showing the impact of drugs, gangs and knife crime.

Operation Dial - Home Office funded overtime in identified hotspot areas, to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime. The hotspot area for Brentwood is Railway Square. Community Safety Officers have been completing two high visibility patrols per week and have held engagement events with local residents and businesses. These high visibility patrols are from 5pm -10pm. Essex Police also have access to this funding and patrol the area up until 2am.

The Essex Restorative and Mediation Service holds offenders to account and helps them take responsibility for the harm they have caused. Both parties discuss next steps and the perpetrators can then make amends.

Victims are given the chance to explain the impact the crime or conflict has had on them, ask questions of the perpetrator and seek an apology. It enables offenders to be held to account for what they have done but also take responsibility for the harm they have caused. If a face to face meeting is not appropriate, they can do so indirectly via letters or messages.

Representatives from the Restorative Justice (RJ) Hub attend local monthly meetings to discuss cases and consider whether an RJ referral would be appropriate.

Relationships have been developed and strengthened and the partnership is striving to deliver our partnership promise.

The Partnership Promise

We are committed to delivering local solutions to local problems that have been identified by local people.